

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Worksheet

## NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL – Course Selections for 2021-2022

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Flex: \_\_\_\_\_

### REQUIRED COURSES

Language Arts      Social Studies      Science      Math      Physical Education  
(Semester course)

### YEAR LONG COURSES

*Place an "X" if you are choosing to take one of these year-long courses.  
(\$25.00 Fee for Music)*

\_\_\_\_\_ Band      \_\_\_\_\_ Orchestra      \_\_\_\_\_ Choir      \_\_\_\_\_ Spanish      \_\_\_\_\_ German

*\*If you plan on taking Spanish or German in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, you are required to have taken Spanish or German in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.*

\_\_\_\_\_ AVID (Teacher Signature required) \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Signature

### SEMESTER COURSES

*All students MUST rank ALL semester courses below 1-10.  
With 1 being your first choice and 10 being your last choice.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Commit 2B Fit
- \_\_\_\_\_ Studio Art (\$25 fee per semester)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Digital Art (\$25 fee per semester)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Life Skills
- \_\_\_\_\_ Career Pathways
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ukulele and Songwriting Workshop (\$25 fee per semester)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Apps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Manufacturing, Automation and Robotics (\$25 fee per semester)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Medical Detectives (\$25 fee per semester)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Study Hall

***Students not meeting grade level expectations based on standardized test scores or grades will be placed in an intervention program or study hall in lieu of one or more courses.***

**The North Middle School Course Guide is available on the NMS Website:**

**<https://www.fallsschools.org/north>**

**By signing below, I understand that my child's schedule will be based on class size parameters and course availability. The course ranking above provides North counselors options when scheduling your child's classes.**

Parent's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Course Descriptions 2021-2022

<p><b>Commit 2B Fit</b> – Students enrolled in this class will be introduced to a variety of leisure and fitness experiences/activities with the intent that students will develop an interest or passion that will encourage them to enjoy staying physically active and make it a priority for the rest of their lives. Activities may include but are not limited to: Archery, Yoga/Meditation/Relaxation Techniques, Paddle boarding, Kayaking, Aqua Games, Weight training, Cardio workouts and use of fitness tracking apps. Students will also develop an understanding of health-based careers (i.e. nutritionists, physical therapist, physical trainer, etc.)</p>
<p><b>Studio Art</b> – The goal of Studio Art is to teach students how to independently and successfully develop ideas, execute art plans, and grow as an artist through reflection. Student choice will greatly influence the work developed during the semester, through the use of theme-based projects. Students will be exposed to and working with a variety of materials, that reflect each individual student's interests. This course prepares students for high school level art courses by nurturing and promoting student voice.</p>
<p><b>Digital Art</b> - Digital Art is a course focused on how art and technology interact. Students will work with technology and traditional techniques to develop digital art such as photography, animation, digital painting, filmmaking, and graphic design. This course prepares students for high school level digital art courses by featuring processes used in professional art careers.</p>
<p><b>Financial Life Skills</b> – Financial success...is it in your future? In Financial Life Skills, you will discover what it takes to become financially literate. You will learn how to manage your own money using a budget and checkbook and make smart decisions about banking, credit, investing, taxes, insurance, buying choices, and much more. Participate in Junior Achievement's Finance Park program which culminates in a day-long career/income/budget simulation field trip! You are never too young to learn the skills that will lead to economic independence. In today's ever-changing economy, one thing remains constant: every person needs a basic understanding of personal financial skills!</p>
<p><b>Career Pathways</b> - Get ready for your future by exploring occupations that interest you, examining various aspects of work, and becoming aware of the relationships that exist between education and career planning. Course units include job applications, mock job and career exploratory interviews, Junior Achievement's "It's My Future" program, entrepreneurial field trips, guest speakers from our MFHS Academies, in-depth use of North's Career Cruising software with a strong focus on the 16 Career Clusters, employability skills, social media use appropriate for school and careers, ability, values and personality-type online assessments, career, education, and job search ethics, character building, presentation skills and more. It is never too early to discover how to get a job and prepare for your career!</p>
<p><b>Mobile Apps</b> - In the first part of the course, students will learn to create entertaining and socially useful apps for phones and tablets that can be shared with friends and family. In addition to learning how to program and become better problem solvers, students will explore the exciting world of computer science from the perspective of mobile computing and its increasingly important effect on society. The second half of the course will be taught using Code.org curriculum with a focus on data and society. We will explore the importance of data in solving problems and highlight how computers can help in this process. We will learn about different systems used to represent information in a computer and the challenges and trade-offs posed by using them. We will end the semester with a student-driven project to solve a problem. If you are interested in programming or computer science, this is the class for you!</p>
<p><b>Exploring Music – Offered in the 2022/2023 school year</b> Exploring music 7/8 is a one-semester course and is offered every other year. It may either be taken by itself or as a continuation of Exploring Music 6. There are no prerequisites; any student, including those taking a musical performance class, can take it. The focus of this class is to investigate the many different facets of music and to apply that knowledge into everyday living. Independent and group projects that incorporate musical technology and equipment will broaden the student's knowledge and understanding of how music is used in the world today. To appreciate and reinforce music concepts, we focus on different methods of application, including the ukulele and Garage Band.</p>
<p><b>Ukulele &amp; Songwriting Workshop – Offered during the 2021-2022 school year.</b> Students will learn how to play single note melodies and chord progressions on the ukulele. They will be able to play along with simple popular folk songs. They will learn the basics of songwriting, popular song forms and how they are put together. The second half of the class focuses on recording, arranging and composing using Garage Band (a digital audio workstation). They will understand how to use loops and mix tracks to create background music for videos and other applications.</p>
<p><b>Choir 8</b> - Choir members learn about their own unique instrument – their voice. Vocal training will emphasize musical skill development through learning songs in many different styles, languages and time periods. Performance opportunities vary from school programs and evening concerts to Solo and Ensemble Festival. The fundamentals of reading music and sight singing will be a part of the overall choir curriculum.</p>
<p><b>Orchestra 7 and/or 8</b> - Orchestra 7/8 consists of students who have completed one or more years of musical training on a string instrument (Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass.) The orchestra meets daily and each student is expected to receive a weekly lesson. Performances include the annual Winter and Spring concerts, solo and ensemble festival, Stringfest and various other Menomonee Falls community events. Students enrolling in this class must have prior experience and approval of the director.</p>
<p><b>Band 8</b> - Eighth Grade Band consists mainly of students who have gained another level of proficiency on their instruments. The band meets daily and each student receives a weekly lesson. Performances include annual winter and spring concerts, Solo &amp; Ensemble Festival, Memorial Day Parade and musical offerings to the Menomonee Falls community.</p>
<p><b>Manufacturing, Automation and Robotics</b> – Students trace the history, development and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths and robotic arms. In addition students have the opportunity to design, engineer and write computer code using (Robot C). This culminating team project consist of a moving vehicle using the VEX robotic engineering equipment from an engineering team approach.</p>
<p><b>Medical Detectives</b> – In this Project Lead the Way class, students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health and research future careers in biomedical sciences. Several dissections including the cow eye, sheep brain and the sheep heart will aid student understanding of our own anatomy. Additionally, students will analyze “crime scenes” using the latest in biomedical sciences (DNA electrophoresis) and forensics (fingerprinting, chromatography, blood splatter, etc.) to determine who committed the crime.</p>
<p><b>German 8</b> – Students continue their introduction to the German language through speaking, reading, and writing. Building vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation are emphasized. Students learn in an informal atmosphere of German conversation using dialogs, games, and customs. Some of the topics are school, weather, the countries and languages of Europe, and food. <b>Students must have taken German 7 as a prerequisite. Students who meet proficiency standards for this course would enroll in German level 2 at the high school.</b></p>
<p><b>Spanish 8</b> - Students continue their introduction to the Spanish language through speaking, reading, and writing. Building vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation are emphasized. Students learn to communicate about school, free-time, family, customs, and food in an immersive atmosphere. Spanish conversation is practiced using dialogs, games, partners and small group work. <b>Students must have taken Spanish 7 as a prerequisite. Students who meet proficiency standards for this course would enroll in Spanish level 2 at the high school.</b></p>